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      UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
      SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
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      IN RE: PLATINUM AND PALLADIUM
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      COMMODITIES LITIGATION,
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                                             10 CV 3617 (WHP)
6
                                                New York, N.Y.
 7
                                                August 21, 2013
                                                10:04 a.m.
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      Before:
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                        HON. WILLIAM H. PAULEY III,
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                                                District Judge
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                                 APPEARANCES
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      LOVELL STEWART HALEBIAN LLP
           Attorneys for Futures Plaintiffs
14
      CHRISTOPHER LOVELL
      CHRISTOPHER McGRATH
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      DOYLE LOWTHER LLP
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      DAVID M. ZENSKY
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D8LBPLAC
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               APPEARANCES (Continued)
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      KOBRE & KIM, LLP
            Attorneys for Defendant Welsh
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      LEANNE A. BORTNER (Via telephone)
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1	(In open court)
2	THE DEPUTY CLERK: In Re: Platinum and Palladium
3	Commodities Litigation.
4	Appearances for the plaintiffs?
5	MR. LOVELL: Christopher Lovell and Christopher
6	McGrath from Lovell Stuart for the futures plaintiffs. Good
7	morning, Judge Pauley.
8	THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Lovell.
9	MR. LOWTHER: John Lowther, Doyle Lowther, on behalf
10	of the physical plaintiffs. Good morning, your Honor.
11	THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Lowther.
12	MR. GRAY: Chris Gray for the physical plaintiffs.
13	Good morning, your Honor.
14	THE COURT: Good morning.
15	THE DEPUTY CLERK: Appearances for the defendants.
16	MR. ZENSKY: Good morning, Judge. David Zensky and
17	with me Nick Adams of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld for the
18	Moore defendants.
19	THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Zensky. Good morning,
20	Mr. Adams.
21	MS. ROCHON: Good morning, your Honor. Jennifer
22	Rochon for Defendant Chris Pia from Kramer Levin Naftalis &
23	Frankel. With me is my colleague Jade Burns.
24	THE COURT: Good morning, Ms. Rochon.
25	MR. JENSEN: Good morning, your Honor. Jessie Jensen

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from Hughes Hubbard & Reed for defendant Eugene Burger. 1 2 THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Jensen. 3 THE DEPUTY CLERK: Appearances by telephone. 4 THE COURT: Ms. Bortner, are you there? 5 MS. BORTNER: Excuse me, your Honor. Leanne Bortner, attorney for Joseph Welsh, defendant. 6 7 THE COURT: Good morning. 8 MS. BORTNER: Good morning. 9 THE COURT: Mr. Lovell, what's the status of this 10 matter? 11 MR. LOVELL: Well, your Honor, the status is that 12 thanks to your Honor's rulings on the motion to compel --13 THE COURT: Why don't you take a seat and speak into 14 the mic? Only because we have someone participating by 15 telephone and they can best hear if we're all speaking into the 16 microphones. 17 MR. LOVELL: Thanks to your Honor's rulings on the 18 motion to compel early document discovery and the motion to 19 dismiss in which you gave plaintiffs leave to replead, and 20 thanks to your Honor's forebearance for the last four months of 21 extensions, which is not totally characteristic of your Honor's 22 rapid treatment of civil cases appropriately, the parties 23 signed a settlement agreement more than 11 minutes ago and 24 exchanged copies that provides and covers as follows, Judge.

The plaintiffs settled their claims with the Moore

Capital defendants, who are all represented here in court, and with Joseph Welsh, and Ms. Bortner's on the phone.

Now, there's another named defendant in the case, MF Global, Inc., which has filed a suggestion of bankruptcy. The plaintiffs have filed a separate claim there and this settlement does not impact that claim. So as far as the pending litigation before your Honor goes, everything is covered.

The terms of the settlement, your Honor, provide as follows: Moore Capital is paying \$48,250,000 to settle in exchange for a release from a settlement class I'll describe in a minute. Moore Capital is paying \$150,000 to "quiet the litigation," of which \$50,000 may be paid back to Moore Capital if there is a collection on the third component of the consideration, which I'll describe now.

Mr. Welsh has agreed to the entry of a judgment in the amount of \$35 million against Mr. Welsh on the negligence claim, a claim that your Honor recently permitted plaintiffs to amend the complaint to include solely to the extent of collection of that judgment against Mr. Welsh's personal assets consisting of his rights against certain insurers and in respect to certain insurance policies and the insurer's denial of coverage for that claim, as to all of which have been assigned to the extent permitted by law to the futures plaintiffs.

Those are the three components of consideration. On the third component, I feel, having sued so many people for misrepresentation over the decades, your Honor, that I have to rush in and add that the insurers have asserted multiple reasons for denial of coverage in these letters at the beginning — I'm sure your Honor is familiar with the standard of practice followed here — and they will have additional defenses and arguments against this.

Mr. Welsh nor Capital defendants don't represent that we can recover anything. The futures plaintiffs' counsel -- nobody represents that the \$35 million judgment can be recovered. On the other hand, standing here representing the class, I'm saying that I think that there's arguments against what the insurers have argued and we'll see what happens on the \$35 million.

Obviously— well, not obviously. Just to continue a little bit more, your Honor, the settlement — which we're going to ask for leave to move for preliminary approval of — includes recitals. And one recital relates to Mr. Welsh's provision of accurate financial information to the futures plaintiffs' counsel who is confidential.

We're quite satisfied, your Honor, that continuing this litigation in front of your Honor would cascade, if we're successful — and defense counsel can put up 18 hurdles and if the plaintiffs jump over 17 of them and miss the 18th, there's

no recovery for the class. We're quite confident that if we jumped over all 18, we wouldn't recover from Mr. Welsh based on everything we know, what we're getting in this settlement, in prospective value and what may quiet the litigation payment that we've set up.

So switching over, your Honor set this up as a premotion conference. For all I know, sitting here, we never would have settled if you hadn't done that, because we said we would have it done last Friday and it took till 11 minutes before we got started here. So we're glad that you set this up and we've done that and we'd like to put in a brief.

But if I could just go through the settlement a little bit more, Judge, to talk about what I had mentioned earlier, the settlement class. In prior commodity futures manipulations, your Honor, it seems to turn out that you can see effects on the market and you can bring a case as to certain time period alleging this is a product of manipulation.

It turns out, though, in the Sumitomo case and the Natural Gas case, as well as others, and other instances in the law outside of commodity futures manipulation, that settlement classes turn out to be of a broader dimension than the litigation class. In this instance the alleged conduct, after we got the documents and went through them, actually began in June 2006, which is some year and a half before the litigation class began. And it ended as we-- it ended May 21st, 2008, the

conduct.

Now, there's a body of disputes, sort of, over how long does a manipulated price stay in the market? Does it stay in the market for a long time or a short time? Your Honor said in this case on the motion to dismiss that it might dissipate in a hurry, citing to the IPO securities case, and there's different things.

There is a theory -- there is an economic theory from very respected Chicago School economists, who are somewhat religious about the efficiency of the market, which says that until there's disclosure to the public, explicit disclosure to the public, something might remain in the market, but those same economists will tell you how efficient the market is and how to figure out things ahead of time. So it's a little bit contradictory.

Justifiably, in my opinion, the defendants asked for a full release. They wanted the settlement class expanded, your Honor, to when the conduct began, June of 2006, until the filing of the CFTC complaint to cover these theories. And we've agreed — and this is a bit, as far as I'm concerned, business as usual. We'll brief this in the preliminary approval papers — and in the final approval papers if your Honor grants preliminary approval — the authority for doing this. And basically it covers the course of conduct and it covers the arguable effect period.

We've proposed a plan of allocation, which I'll go into in the-- which we'll go into probably more appropriately in the preliminary approval papers.

I should say one thing that relates to the plan of allocation and the reasonableness of the settlement, and that is the amount of damages. The Second Circuit does not want your Honor to retry the case. The Second Circuit wants your Honor to be sure that the process was not tainted and was a good process. And I will submit an affirmation that this was arm's length, hard-nosed bargaining. And we had two days in front of a nationally recognized mediator. It didn't work, and we went back to litigating and resumed litigating, and then your Honor gave us all of these adjournments and we settled. It was very contentious. So the process is pure.

Then the next step, although you're not supposed to retry the case, your Honor, as your Honor knows from approving other cases, I'm talking about currency conversion really for your standards on preliminary approval and final approval.

Your Honor at the preliminary approval stage, as you've held in currency conversion, you're just seeing whether this is within the range of reasonableness of something that could be set out to the class. You're not going to pass on it finally until the final approval hearing. At the final approval hearing you'd take a closer look, but the facts aren't going to change.

The plaintiffs believe that based on a pure review of

economic literature, we could put in a fact-supported expert opinion -- I don't want to say Daubert compliant, but we have gone through a million things, but I will say Daubert compliant that will show over \$400 million in damages here, your Honor.

Now, I want to just say two things -- and so it's a settlement of 48,250 -- 48,4 for sure -- and then whatever we can get on the other thing.

I just want to say a couple of things about that.

There's a line of cases, your Honor, Van Gemert v. Boeing, is a Supreme Court case -- I'm smiling because, by the way, I spent eight days in a hotel room to prepare for a Supreme Court argument and your Honor got eight votes and I got one one time. So that's why -- if there's an association problem.

The Supreme Court held that the class members who do not claim their share of the judgment don't get any money and that money reverts back to the defendants. And that line — that has not been broken up. So we say there's over \$400 million in damages. Now, it's 2013. These events happened in 2007/2008 focus, but over a diffused period for the longer period. How many people are going to claim at this point?

I've had some recent experiences in commodity futures where there were not that many claims. It's a little bit perplexing, to be honest with you, your Honor. I could -- we'll go into it at the final approval stage if we get past preliminary approval and it's time. We'll go into the

attrition rates here. So that's a real concern.

The second concern leads back to the economics. I believe that the plaintiffs could put in an expert report for over four hundred million here, your Honor, but I saw an excellent mediation brief from the people behind me with a Nobel prize-winning economist who they say concluded that there's only six million alleged damages if you accept our premises.

Now, I think his numbers are wrong. I think his numbers led to the conclusion of nine million. But six million, nine million, it's a low figure. And I've been in cases where the plaintiffs have worked with this Nobel prize-winning economist. The way he did the work and the facts here and what could be argued with all the circumstances here — which we can get into more in the papers, your Honor — that is a submission that tended to show very, very low damages. And then you have your attrition rates.

So given this battle with the experts -- and they had a good one -- I think this is a reasonable settlement under the best possible standard, which is the *Grinnell* case, and also under a later somewhat revisionist case in the Second Circuit, the *Maywalt* standard, which says the realistic likelihood is totally different from best possible.

Either standard, because of the attrition on the best possible and because of what I mentioned with the battle of the

experts on the other one, I'm confident that your Honor-- I don't want to prejudge, but I'm confident the plaintiffs will put in papers to make a good argument that this is within the range of reasonableness.

We would ask your Honor to give us until next
Wednesday to submit the preliminary approval paper. We've been
late on everything we've done, but we'll be on time with that,
Judge.

THE COURT: All right. Obviously it's the notice and claims process that I have found in some cases seems to break down where the adversarial process is no longer at play. I want to be sure that the parties have come together on the best possible notice provisions so that we can ensure the highest level possible participation. And if you recall what happened in currency conversion, where the notice process really had to be reengineered midstream, I'd like to avoid that in future cases.

MR. LOVELL: Yes, point taken, your Honor. And that's what I said about perplexing. We changed the notice process here in the last few weeks. While I can't go into the 408 step with you, I'll describe the notice process, your Honor. And I'll think about and I'll talk to the defendants about possible reasonable enhancements to follow up on what your Honor said.

But just briefly, we're advertising in the Wall Street

Journal, we're advertising in Futures Magazine twice, and we're

taking other steps through internet publications that futures traders follows. So there's a publication component to this. But there is a reasonable mail notice that's calculated to reach every class member more than once, and that works as follows: We have the names from the CFTC of the large traders. Large traders usually constitute 70 to 80 percent of the market, but that may be only 15 to 20 percent of the number. And we should be able to mail to every one of the large traders from this list notice of this case.

In addition, we have from the Exchange the names of all of the clearing brokers. Now, these clearing brokers have duties to their customers. And the way it works in securities and commodities is that we've mailed the notice to each of the clearing firms and we asked them to mail it to the customers. And we're going to have to be vigilant and follow up with them and watch what happens on this, because this is the one part that we're depending on the clearing firms to get the information out.

And in view of your Honor's comments, I think I'll make a point to separately report to your Honor and to the defendants what's happening on that part of the notice. If that part doesn't have a breakdown, and what's intended to happen, there should be additional mail notice to 70 or 80 percent of the volume of the market who are the large traders and direct mail notice to the smallest part of the market.

THE COURT: All right. Do any of the defendants wish to be heard or the physical plaintiffs?

MR. ZENSKY: Who would you like to hear from first, your Honor?

THE COURT: Well, let me hear from the physical plaintiffs on the matter.

MR. LOWTHER: Just very briefly, your Honor. As the Court found out just several minutes ago, there's been a settlement. This is the first that I have heard that the papers were going to be executed this morning.

I'll simply echo what Mr. Lovell has said. We would like some additional time, because I think we are still under Rule 408 concerning our negotiations, but I believe we have the substantive terms of a settlement worked out with the defense. We have exchanged some preliminary papers, our deal term and sheet. We would ask the Court's indulgence, however; perhaps a few weeks after the futures file their preliminary papers to get our preliminary papers on file.

The reason being we simply want to be efficient in our use of resources. I believe the parties have essentially agreed that we would use similar plan of allocation forms, claims sheets. We will have a slightly different notice program than the futures plaintiffs, and we would just simply ask again the Court's indulgence on getting our preliminary papers on file. But our settlement on the physical side will

necessarily be smaller simply because there's a lot more futures traded than there was Platinum and Palladium physical trading at that time.

I will tell your Honor the negotiations and discussions concerning what that amount was going to be was hotly contested. It was vigorous and antagonistic negotiations. Professional, but nevertheless we had attended all of the mediation sessions and we went back and forth for months and months and months. The parties expending significant resources on experts, both sides, to determine just how many physical ounces were traded during the class period and whether or not you had offsets, what were the tie-in between futures damages and physical damages. So, again, Judge, all of these points were hotly contested, but I think we'll be able to get our papers on file timely.

And I'll conclude by saying after we filed our preliminary approval, we simply think it would make sense that your Honor's rulings concerning approval be tracked at the same time for the following reason: I think we want to issue one notice at the same time; again, to take advantage of efficiencies. This is something that we've discussed with the proposed class action settlement administrator. And, again, simply because our class will be smaller, we want to take advantage of those efficiencies and try and keep as much money as we can for the class.

THE COURT: Who's the proposed settlement administrator?

MR. LOVELL: A.B. Data. The people at A.B. Data recently joined them and have done futures class action manipulation settlements in the past, your Honor. And they can talk about futures and do these -- enter these cells into the computer and get all the trades in. They know how to do it. There's over a hundred securities cases filed here in class actions, and there used to be only one every five years in commodities. It's picked up a little bit now, your Honor, but there's nobody who knows how to do this. So they are in a semi-monopoly position, but they know how to do it.

THE COURT: Doesn't it make sense to have both motions for preliminary approval filed at the same time, put everything on the same schedule?

MR. LOVELL: We can certainly wait, your Honor. I don't see why we need to go first. I can't see any reason.

THE COURT: Do you agree with that, Mr. Lowther?

MR. LOWTHER: I agree. What I need to see are the papers that were executed today. Because, again, we have some agreement with the defense that we would proceed on those papers. We need our experts to take a close look at the plan of allocation. We do plan on submitting an expert report with our preliminary approval application for the following reason: Futures, they can look at a tape; for the physical side, these

are over-the-counter trades. And, again, that was the most hotly contested issue in our settlement discussions. So we will be submitting an expert report just concerning volumes.

In a crude respect, I think once we have some expert opinion on the range of potential volumes, I do think it then becomes just a matter of multiplication as we look at the plan of allocation and we can allocate damages.

THE COURT: When do the physical plaintiffs think they would be in a position to file a motion for preliminary approval?

MR. LOWTHER: Originally we had said two weeks. After taking a look at the plan of allocation, I'm now thinking possibly two. I think three weeks would be better. We've retained the CPM Group, who's here in New York. They are the recognized leaders and experts in the precious metals and, in particular, platinum and palladium. Frankly, I'm happy to have them because if we didn't have them, I'm not quite sure who would be able to render the opinion that we need. So we have the best who's going to be assisting us with our papers.

So I think three weeks is a-- yes, three weeks, your Honor.

THE COURT: All right.

MR. LOVELL: With the Court's pleasure, I don't see the point not to waiting, your Honor, if you want us to wait.

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. LOVELL: Okay.

THE COURT: So three weeks from today is September 11th. I'm prepared to move it to the 18th just to get beyond the most significant of the Jewish holidays and other holidays between now and then. So I'll fix September 18th as the date for the parties to move.

And I take it they'll-- will it be a joint motion between the physical and futures or separate motions?

MR. LOVELL: I omitted to say, your Honor-- I'm sorry for interrupting, Judge, but I omitted to say that the settlements are not contingent on each other. Expressly to the contrary. If theirs is found not to be reasonable by your Honor, then I would prefer to keep --

THE COURT: Separate motions.

MR. LOVELL: Yes, please.

THE COURT: Separate motions, but to be filed on September 18.

Now, Mr. Zensky, or any of the other counsel for the defendants, do you want to be heard with respect to the status of the matter?

MR. ZENSKY: Yes, absolutely, your Honor. Let me just pick up starting with the issue of the physicals and the need for some extra time. The thought process was, and why the physical papers are not done, obviously we have an understanding and an agreement as to the economics, but there

was little reason for us to go through the brain damage of trying to finalize their papers until Mr. Lovell, Mr. McGrath and the defendants finished the futures settlement. There is every reason to make them as uniform as possible. The releases, time frames, terms, et cetera. So that's one point.

Second, although, as Mr. Lovell identified, once we get them signed and on file, approval of one is not the condition of the Court's approval of the other. From the defendant's perspective, we were not going to proceed to sign the settlement only with the physical class until we had finished our negotiation and signed a settlement with the futures class. So that's by way of further explanation as to why the physical settlement is not ready to sign today, your Honor.

With respect to the futures settlement, let me just echo a couple of Mr. Lovell's comments. It was, indeed, as arm's length as is imaginable. There is no point that was not negotiated, renegotiated, over and over, by Mr. Lovell and Mr. McGrath on behalf of the futures class. If you had seen the footer on the settlement agreement before it was removed for the signature copy, the settlement itself went through 38 drafts, I believe, before it was ready for signature. And the eight or nine exhibits, some of them went through 10, 15, 20 drafts of their own.

So this was an arduous, complex and very hard-fought

process, your Honor. I think Mr. Lovell described in part some of the range of dispute between the economists for the parties.

In addition, your Honor, as you know, when we first brought a motion to dismiss, there were several issues that the Court did not address at that point because it was dismissing the complaint on the ground that it incorporated the settlement with the CFTC. And, therefore, we would have been back before you with a motion to dismiss. We think some issues would have been dismissed. We would have been back before you on summary judgment with respect to issues of causation.

And we certainly felt and would have disputed to the last the ability of the futures plaintiffs to show any damages, or certainly anything near the amount that Mr. Lovell's economists would like to have testified to. But like all other cases that settle, while certainly disputing the facts, disputing liability, litigation is not without risk. And given the protracted and complex nature of this matter, it was our judgment to settle.

Certainly from the defendant's perspective, we think it is a generous settlement for the class and we don't believe the Court will have any problem determining that the settlement should be preliminarily approved and ultimately approved at a fairness hearing.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Zensky.
Mr. Rochon, do you wish to be heard?

1 MS. ROCHON: No, your Honor. THE COURT: Mr. Jensen? 2 3 MR. JENSEN: No, your Honor. 4 THE COURT: Ms. Bortner, do you wish to be heard? 5 MS. BORTNER: No, your Honor. Thank you. MR. ZENSKY: I'm sorry, your Honor, if I could add 6 7 just one question. It's likely the defendants would put in papers in support of the settlement in contemplation of the 8 9 final fairness hearing. I don't believe we would be putting in 10 papers unless the Court requires some filing from us at that preliminary approval stage. Obviously having signed the 11 12 settlement, the parties are now, not on the same side, but 13 certainly share a common interest in having the settlement 14 proceed through the judicial process and be approved. 15 So there would be no opposition for anything that we would file unless the Court requires it. 16 17 THE COURT: All right. Let's fix a schedule and a return date for the motion for preliminary approval. 18 futures and physical plaintiffs file their respective motions 19 20 on September 18, what do you propose, Mr. Lovell? 21 MR. LOVELL: Your Honor, usually the defendants will 22 not oppose it, but once in a while, the rare case, the 23 Microsoft case many years ago, somebody shows up and opposes 24 preliminary approval. So I think your Honor should-- this is 25 the notice of motion, but I think we should wait the 17 days or

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whatever it is and it will be unopposed 99 percent of the time and be submitted. But if your Honor wanted to schedule a date to come back for the -- you know, approximately a little more than two weeks later, we could do that. And then in person, assuming -- and this happens like 99 percent of the time -- and your Honor finds it warranted, we can accept the whole calendar at that point. THE COURT: All right. Fine. I'll put it down for a hearing on Friday, October 4 at 2:30 with a view that if no one jumps up, we will simply schedule a final approval hearing and a final motion for final approval. Is that all right? MR. LOVELL: Yes, your Honor. Makes perfect sense. THE COURT: All right. Anything further at this time? MR. LOWTHER: Chris, do you want to talk about page length? MR. LOVELL: Your Honor, the page length was just raised. We can do our papers within 25 pages for our motion. MR. LOWTHER: I believe so. THE COURT: All right. That's fine. Anything else? MR. LOVELL: Not for the futures plaintiffs, your Honor.

MR. LOWTHER: Nothing from the physical class, your
Honor.

THE COURT: Well, all right. I look forward to

receiving the motion, learning more about the details of the settlements and the prospective notice and claims process. Of course, any resolution of a case of this magnitude, when it's in the offing it's intoxicating to judges. So thank you for all of your work. I'll see you on October 2. MR. LOVELL: Thank you, your Honor. MR. ZENSKY: Two or four, your Honor? THE COURT: October 4. October 4 at 2:30. Thank you, Mr. Zensky. (Adjourned)